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**ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

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A method wherein a special programming mode of a memory is entered. The special programming mode disables internal verification by the memory. The memory includes automation circuitry for program verification. A plurality of words is programmed into the memory without the memory performing internal program verification. The special programming mode is exited and internal program verification by the memory is enabled. An apparatus is also described having a host processor and a memory with special programming mode circuitry.

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